



[EXTERNAL] Proposed Abingdon Avenue School

From Judi Scheiner [REDACTED]
Date Fri 3/20/2026 6:50 PM
To Land Use Testimony <landusetestimony@council.nyc.gov>
Cc [REDACTED]

1 attachment (2 MB)
1000010090.jpg;

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As a resident of E. Reading Avenue, I have several concerns & suggestions:

1. Size of building be made smaller;
2. Proposed number of students be lowered to 550 students;
3. Possibility to contain only grades Pre-K through 5th grade;
4. Traffic congestion during drop-off & pick-up times; and
5. SEE attached diagram re: parking, ingress & egress suggestions.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Judith Scheiner
[REDACTED]

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
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[EXTERNAL] Proposed Abingdon School

From SHERIANN RAHEY [REDACTED]

Date Sat 3/21/2026 8:04 AM

To Land Use Testimony <landusetestimony@council.nyc.gov>

Cc [REDACTED]

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Good Morning,

Recently, I have connected with many of my neighbors, and it is clear that we share several common concerns that we would like to address collectively. I am reaching out on behalf of myself, my husband, and those residents of E. Reading Ave., who were unable to do so directly.

- **Proposed options for the lot:**

- 250 apartment building with no parking
- Homeless shelter (not believed to be a confirmed/viable option)
- School (Has council support)

- **Our primary concerns:**

- Relocating the school entrance to Abingdon Ave.
- Reducing the size of the school to limit congestion and neighborhood impact
- Preserving natural light for surrounding homes
- Addressing flooding and drainage issues originating from Leverett Ave.
- Parking limitations and lack of available space
- Soil conditions and environmental impact

- **Overall concern:**

- As daily residents of this block, we believe placing a school at this location will create significant disruption and safety issues.
- These concerns should be addressed before the design of the school is finalized.

- **Soil conditions:**

- We were informed when purchasing our homes that nothing could be built on this land due to soil conditions.
- The land has been tested regularly since 2020.
- What has changed that now makes the soil suitable for development?
- How will construction impact air quality for our homes?

- **Traffic and entrance concerns:**

- An entrance on E. Reading Ave. will create serious congestion on a narrow residential street.
- We strongly propose moving the entrance to Abingdon Ave., a larger roadway.

- A circular drop-off/pick-up design should be included to improve traffic flow and safety.
- **Building size and impact:**
 - The proposed building appears excessively large and tall.
 - It will block natural sunlight and impact surrounding homes.
 - Can the school be reduced in size (e.g., K-5), with upper grades placed at another SCA-owned property on the south shore of the island ?
- **Parking concerns:**
 - Parking is already limited, especially with Armstrong Gardens residents using E. Reading Ave.
 - A K-8 D75 school requires parking for teachers, staff, paraprofessionals, and therapists.
 - Even with an estimated 98 staff members, parking availability is unclear.
 - Request: allow regular street parking after school hours (after 4 PM) and on non-school days.
- **Traffic safety and flooding:**
 - The corner of Armstrong Ave. and E. Reading Ave. is hazardous.
 - Water runoff from Leverett Ave. causes pooling and dangerous icing conditions.
 - Residents have experienced skidding and unsafe driving conditions.
 - Increased traffic will heighten accident risks.
 - Drainage and safety issues must be resolved before development proceeds.
- **Closing:**
 - We appreciate the opportunity to share our concerns and ask that they be taken seriously.
 - While a school may move forward, revisions are necessary to protect the safety and quality of life of current residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your response and to working toward solutions that benefit both the students and the residential community being impacted.

Respectfully,

Sheriann and Dennis Callahan
